

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 18345 161541Z

44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 161507Z DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4765

S E C R E T ROME 18345

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, IT
SUBJECT: DE MARTINO VISIT

REF: STATE 291789

MFA SYG MANZINI, IN COVERSTON WITH AMBASSADOR ON DEC 15, SAID THAT HE HAD RECENTLY SEEN DE MARTINO, WHO SEEMED QUITE PLEASED ABOUT HIS UPCOMING TRIP TO US. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED, IN GENERAL TERMS, PROGRAM FOR DE MARTINO VISIT. MANZINI COMMENTED THAT HE HOPED WE WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MAKE VISIT SUBSTANTIVE AND WORTHWHILE BECAUSE SOCIALISTS MUST BE BROUGHT AROUND TO RENEWED COOPERATION WITH CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS. MANZINI VOLUNTEERED THAT HE IS ARRANGING TO SEND AMBASSADOR ALDO CONTE MAROTTA (CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TRIPOLI) TO US AT TIME OF DE MARTINO VISIT. HE DESCRIBED MAROTTA AS BEING VERY FLUENT IN ENGLISH AND A "GOOD SOLID" MAN WHO COULD ACCOMPANY AND "HELP STEER" DE MARTINO DURING HIS VISIT TO US.

COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST WE HAVE HEARD OF MAROTTA BEING INVOLVED IN DE MARTINO VISIT. AS EXPLAINED BY MANZINI, IT SOUNDED LIKE HIS INITIATIVE; HOWEVER, IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT THE INITIATIVE CAME FROM, OR WAS WELCOMED BY, DE MARTINO. WE WILL ATTEMPT DISCREETLY TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS AND ON THE RELATIONSHIP, IF ANY, BETWEEN DE MARTINO AND MAROTTA. ON THE LATTER POINT WE NOTE THAT MAROTTA IS FROM NAPLES AND STUDIED LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NAPLES WHERE DE MARTINO IS PROFESSOR OF LAW. VOLPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1975
Decapton Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decapton Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME18345
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750437-0082
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751235/aaaabewi.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 291789
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DE MARTINO VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, OTRA, IT, (DE MARTINO, FRANCISCO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006